Mr. Lilburn Boggs, Deputy Director
U.S.Secret Service
1800 G St., NW #842
Washington, D.C. 20223

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
12/15/76

Dear Mr. Boggs,

Thank you for your letter of the 10th and the enclosures. The first, CO-3-2817, 12/15/54, appears to be incomplete. The copy you sent ends with page 5, an incomplete sentence. I would appreciate the balance.

For some reason the Secret Service prefers to pretend that I did not invoke the provisions of the Privacy Act. I did. It is my impression that under the PA provisions some of what has been withheld may not be.

The courts have held that some of your deletions under claim of 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(7)(C) are not proper. I am confident this is known. Obviously some of these names also are in no sense secret, like the agents who identified themselves to me. Or the public official on Page one of the report. Or the locker manager, etc. As your denial relates to public employees I appeal these denials.

I have not been provided with records relating to the destruction of the investigatory file the Ssecret Service maintained on me. I have been informed that these records are required to be made and preserved. I therefore ask for all the records in any way relevant to the destruction of the records relating to me. I believe this is really an appeal, the request being included in my initial request. Aside from the supplier investigation I would like to know for what reason the Secret Service investigated me. It is, of course, apparent that there was an investigation having to do with my disagreement with the Warren Report and my publishing on this subject. I regard this an as improper activity regardless of the federal investigative agency that conducted it. Under these circumstances I regard the destruction as improper, too. I would like to know when, why and on whose order these other records were destroyed. I regard this an even more anti-American because of the totally false inferences that I am some kind of dangerous subversive. I would hope that with the changes that have taken place in our national life and thought you would agree with my description of that McCarthyite era. I also hope that you agree inquiry by officials into thought and publishing are in opposition to basic and treasured American principles. This is one of the reasons I want all these records of any nature. I will want them for deposit with my files in an archive.

While the Acts relate to records only, I do hope you will conduct an inquiry and provide me with a full written report on why I was investigated as well as the above questions having to do with the destruction of these records.

I would like to be able to accept your referral of the long FBI report on my wife and me as an adequate response. Long experience with the FBI makes this impossible. It is years late in reponding to many of my requests. Two currently in federal district court began in 1966 and 1969. The FBI is exceptionally late by even its own contrived statistics. This includes with my request for the files on me. Because it has already not complied I appeal this as a denial under both PA and FOIA. I do hope you will understand that my purpose is not to give you problems. You are aware of your own non-compliance with the time provisions of the Act. You should have referred this to the FBI on receipt of my request. And I cannot permit the FBI to stonewall everything.

The Secret Service has not been forthright in this matter. The State Department is not the only agency that has asked the Secret Service's permission to release records to me. In something like a year or more I await word from another agency that did inform me of asking the Secret Service.

There is also a lack of forthrightness with regard to the field offices.

On page two, with regard to correcting error, you refer to FOIA only. Is there not such a provision in PA?

However, I do thank you for including the correspondence as a gesture in that direction.

In thumbing through the other enclosures I note that some of my earlier requests still have not been complied with. One has to do with a tape given the Secret Service by the Miami police and as this file shows made public by the Miami police. It is my understanding that both voices in that tape have been stilled by death. The men are Joseph Adams Milteer and Willie Somersett. My interest in this tape is now archival only but for that reason I would still like a dub of it. Some years ago I did obtain a partial transcript. I then published it.

Subsequent to the correspondence on the so-called "Memo of Transfer" I did obtain some but not all the records from the Archives under FOIA. Still later, and long after disclosure to others, the Archives made still more relevant records available. I would like to know whether earlier assurances not having been true every relevant record has been released. I want to be sure I have them all. I know that in that period Mr. Acheson's office was involved and had files. While I believe it is not material to the request I tell you this is for archival purposes not for writing. The withholding and then the dribbling out of these records resulted in the defamation of the President's survivors. I want to be certain of archival completeness.

I do regret the Secret Service has seen fit to stall this matter without need and in violation of the law. It is an agency of law enforcement. I regret the torturing of the exemptions when there also is no need for that and so long after the courts have ruled without federal appeal. Of course I regret the great amount of time this wastes for both of us. And the attitude toward law that is reflected. But I cannot accept these denials so I do appeal them all if I have not already.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg